

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 ABF-01 IO-13 GSA-02
ITC-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ICAE-00 AID-05
CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 TRSE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15
STR-07 CEA-01 L-03 H-01 PA-01 INT-05 /112 W
-----113830 050139Z /15

O 042153Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6900
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 01661

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EMIN, ITC, CA
SUBJECT: APRIL MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL (ITC)

REF: STATE 84660

1. ECONOMIC OFFICER DISCUSSED CONTENTS REFTEL WITH JEAN TREMBLAY, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMODITY POLICY SECTION, MORN-
ING APRIL 4. TREMBLAY SAID INTERESTED GOC AGENCIES HELD
MEETING ON ITC ISSUES APRIL 3 AT WHICH IT WAS DECIDED
CANADA WOULD TAKE FOLLOWING POSITION DURING APRIL 10-14
MEETING.

2. CANADA WILL OPPOSE PRICE INCREASE IN RANGE PROPOSED
BY PRODUCERS (200 RINGGITS). HOWEVER, IF CONSENSUS DE-
VELOPS FOR MODEST PRICE INCREASE, GOC WOULD NOT OPPOSE
IT. WHEN ASKED WHAT GOC WOULD CONSIDER "A MODEST IN-
CREASE" TREMBLAY SAID NO SPECIFIC FIGURE WAS MENTIONED,
BUT HE SUPPOSED THAT THIS MIGHT BE IN 50 RINGGIT RANGE.
HE NOTED THAT U.K. MAY MODIFY ITS FORMER POSITION AND GO
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ALONG WITH SMALL PRICE INCREASE.

3. GOC REPS WILL ASK FOR INCREASED SPREAD BETWEEN MINI-
MUM AND MAXIMUM PRICES. IN GOC VIEW, CURRENT SPREAD IS
SO NARROW THAT BUFFER STOCK IS CALLED INTO ACTION TOO
SOON, WITH DELETERIOUS EFFECT ON INVESTMENT.

4. GOC WILL NOT TAKE A HIGH PROFILE ON PRODUCER TAX AND INVESTMENT POLICY ISSUE. BEING IMPORTANT MINERAL PRODUCER WHOSE OWN RECORD IN THIS AREA CAN BE CRITICIZED SIGNIFICANT INCREASED DOMESTIC MINERAL PRODUCTION TAXATION IN MID-1970'S HAS HURT INVESTMENT IN MINING INDUSTRY), CANADA COULD NOT TAKE CONVINCING STAND ON THIS ISSUE.

5. CANADA WILL SUPPORT PROPOSAL FOR SMALL ITC BUDGET INCREASE.

6. SINCE GOC WILL NOT OPPOSE DISCUSSION OF OR TAKE STRONG STAND ON PRICE AND PRODUCER TAXATION AT APRIL 10-14 ITC MEETING, IT WILL NOT COMMUNICATE ITS VIEWS ON THESE ISSUES TO PRODUCERS PRIOR TO THEIR APRIL 5-6 MEETING IN DJAKARTA. DUEMLING

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TIN, MEETINGS, PRICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978OTTAWA01661
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780146-0218
Format: TEL
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780495/aaaadcse.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: dbaa09b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 84660
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3081873
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APRIL MEETING OF INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL (ITC)
TAGS: EMIN, CA, ITC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/dbaa09b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014